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COUNTRY

SUBJECT

PLACE

ACQUIRED DATE OF IN

- 1. Joseph Vidmar in recent months has been in great disfavor with the Communist hierarchy in Slovenia. He made an obvious effort to be the representative at the "Peace Conference" meeting held in New York in early April and aroused suspicion that he would probably avail himself of the opportunity to remain abroad. The Communist Party leaders have been unable to confirm the validity of this conjecture, but nevertheless have excluded him from all official state conferences.
- 2. Meanwhile the Tito regime has desired to achieve a rapprochement with the opposition. In Slovenia, the regime is interested in reaching an accord with Dr. Branko Vrcon, a known liberal leader, who has long been interned and sentenced to forced labor in Maribor. Vidnar is anxious to offset the effect of the rumors concerning his "defection," and offered to act as intermediary. Vrcon however, declined to collaborate with the regime allegedly because of poor health.
- Conferences between Vidmar and Dr. Boris Furlan, who has also been intermed, have been resumed.
- 4. In Croatia, Tito would be satisfied to negotiate an agreement even with a third line HSS (Croatian Peasant Party) figure since both Ivan Subasic and August Kosutic have made demands unacceptable to Tito.
- 5. There has been no word in Ljubljana regarding possible overtures on the part of the regime toward Milan Grol or other Serbs.

